

**"SON OF STAR WARS"
COMING TO UK/EUROPE**

Following a series of secret meetings over the past six weeks in London, Washington and Brussels—involving members of the Clinton Administration and the British Cabinet, senior staff officers from the Pentagon and the British Ministry of Defence, senior management from the US National Security Agency and British GCHQ, and representatives from NATO (on a strictly "need-to-know" basis)—Washington has been given permission to proceed with the first British stage of the "Son of Star Wars" program. This involves changes in computer software at the US satellite base at Fylingdales in North Yorkshire (*Intelligence*, no. 112, p. 26).

Eventually the US\$50 billion national missile protective shield, designed to provide early warning of a rogue nuclear missile attack against the US, will involve a massive extension to Menwith Hill, near Harrogate, and an arsenal of 200 "interceptors" set up in Britain, Denmark and the USA (North Dakota and Alaska).

Although the system is not due to be tested until mid-May, President Bill Clinton has been under increasing pressure from the Republican-dominated Congress to agree to develop the technology.



Pointing out that London could not be expected to "turn down a request from our closest ally to change its computer software", a UK Cabinet spokesperson claimed that Prime Minister Tony Blair had "acted as a bridge between Europe and the US" in persuading the Pentagon to "share information about the missile shield technology" with its NATO allies.

Exactly what the Europeans are to do with the data, which is bound to be heavily edited, wasn't mentioned in the statement. (*Source: Intelligence (France)*, #115, 10 April 2000, www.blythe.org/Intelligence)

**CASE AGAINST DR HULDA
CLARK DISMISSED**

Charges laid against Hulda Regehr Clark, PhD, ND, have been dismissed. Dr Clark was arrested in September 1999 and charged with practising medicine without a licence—a felony that can be punished with up to eight years in prison (see *Global News* 7/01).

Dr Clark was released on bail a few weeks later, but the uncertainty over the outcome of her trial was a heavy burden on the 71-year-old researcher from San Diego, CA. Her enemies wanted to see her locked up behind bars. To the established medical interests, Dr Clark's workable therapy against cancer is a huge threat. But now the charges have been dismissed.

David Amrein, President of the Dr Clark Research Association, has expressed his thanks to everyone who contributed to the legal fund or helped in other ways. He says the real fight is far from being over—the fight for individual freedom of choice in medical matters.

(*Source: Dr Clark Research Association*, 18 April 2000, e-mail info@drclark.net, website www.drclark.net)

**DRUG MAKERS DON'T FINISH
STUDIES AFTER LICENSURE**

Drug makers have consistently failed to conduct studies of their products after they are put on the market—studies that were often required by the FDA as a condition for a drug's approval, according to the consumer watchdog Public Citizen.

Data that the group obtained from the FDA through the Freedom of Information Act shows that from 1990 to 1994, 88 new drugs were approved, based in part on the manufacturers' commitment to do such studies (known as postmarketing or phase-four studies). Just 13% of the manufacturers of these drugs had completed the studies as of December 1999, the group found.

"This means that for at least five and as long as 10 years after drug approval, all of the studies for 87% of these drugs had not been completed," says Larry Sasich, PharmD, MPH, a spokesperson for Public Citizen, the group founded by consumer advocate Ralph Nader.

(*Sources: http://my.webmd.com/content/article/1728.56650*, via Sheri Nakken, AVN@egroups.com, 18 April 2000)



SUPERVIRUSES: THE NEXT DIGITAL THREAT

The "Love Bug" has given us just a taste of what could be coming. The virus caused billions of dollars' worth of damage—more than any other virus or hacking attack since the dawn of cyberhistory.

It lay dormant for nearly a week before surfacing on computers in Hong Kong. The message, seemingly sent by someone known to the computer user, said "ILOVEYOU" and had an attachment which appeared to be a love letter.

Launching the attachment allowed a program to invade the computer, which not only sent copies of the e-mail to all the addresses listed on the machine but also *scooped up all the passwords it could find and sent them back to the creator of the bug.* [Emphasis added. Ed.]

Anyone from the Pentagon to the House of Commons to New Zealand universities was hit. An estimated 20 per cent of the world's computers were affected. It could have been much worse.

In November 1999, the "Bubbleboy" virus broke the longstanding rule that you have to open an e-mail attachment to become infected. By the time it was in your in-box, it was already too late. Thankfully, Bubbleboy did not have a "destructive payload" and so did little damage. Importantly, however, few took much notice of the quantum leap that it represented. In April 1999, a virus called "Chernobyl" was activated in hundreds of thousands of computers in Asia and the Middle East. Not only did it wipe out stored data, it destroyed BIOS—the basic instructions that tell a machine how to start. Another quantum leap.

Virus writers are now able to combine the destructiveness of Chernobyl with the invasiveness of Bubbleboy and the speed of the Love Bug—and create a supervirus.

According to experts, at least 50 such superviruses have already been detected on the Internet. None has yet been launched at the public. Some may not work; some may be shot down by existing virus defences; some might get through. And that is the nightmare scenario.

A hacker known as "Dark Tangent", who heads a group which advises big business on their security, said the only surprise is that a "supervirus hasn't happened yet".

(Source: The Observer, UK, www.guardian.co.uk, 7 May 2000)

DRIVING WITH BIG BROTHER

In Australia, plans are afoot to compulsorily equip all motor vehicles with electronic sender units which will be read by global positioning system (GPS) satellites.

The Victorian Government expects the satellite detection system to be fully operational by 2001.

All registered vehicles will be required to carry a microchip sender unit, which instantly records a vehicle's position and speed. Heavy fines and even vehicle confiscation will apply to those with missing or inoperable sender units.

The government is well advanced in its plan to link Melbourne's new E-tag free-way tolling system into the speed detection net. The E-tag tolling system operates via a number of overhead gantries on major arterial freeways. These gantries detect a vehicle's E-tag signal as it passes underneath, directly debiting the driver's E-tag account to pay the toll. The gantries are also used to calculate the vehicle's speed.

No doubt the Victorian Government will be pleased at President Clinton's recent announcement to make military-level GPS satellite data—which is 10 times more accurate than before—available to all.

(Source: Australian Motorcycle News, vol. 49, no. 18, 31 March 2000)

ISPs TO BE 'HARDWIRED' TO MI5'S INTERNET SPYING CENTRE
MI5 is building a new £25m e-mail surveillance centre which will have the power to monitor all e-mail and

Internet messages sent and received in Britain. The UK Government is to require Internet service providers (ISPs) to have "hardwire" links to the new computer facility so that messages can be traced across the Internet.

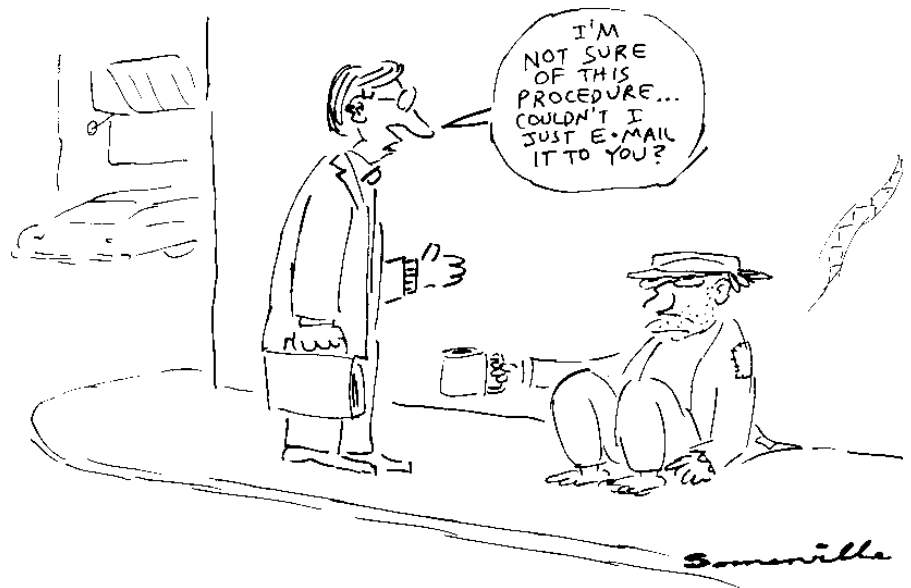
The security service and the police will still need Home Office permission to search Internet traffic, but they can also apply for general warrants that would enable them to intercept communications for a company or an organisation.

The new computer centre, codenamed GTAC (government technical assistance centre)—which will be up and running by the end of the year inside MI5's London headquarters—has provoked concern among civil liberties groups.

"With this facility, the government can track every website that a person visits, without a warrant, giving rise to a culture of suspicion by association," said Caspar Bowden, director of the Foundation for Information Policy Research.

The government already has powers to tap phone lines linking computers, but the growth of the Internet has made it impossible to read all material. By requiring service providers to install cables that will download material to MI5, the government will have the technical capability to read everything that passes over the Internet.

The new spying centre will decode messages that have been encrypted. Under new powers due to come into force this (northern) summer, police will be able to require individuals and companies to hand



over computer "keys"—special codes that unlock scrambled messages.

"The arrival of this spy centre means that Big Brother is finally here," said Norman Baker, Liberal Democrat MP for Lewes. "The balance between the state and individual privacy has swung too far in favour of the state."

(Source: The Sunday Times, UK, 30 April 2000, www.sunday-times.co.uk)

PROZAC – A PRESCRIPTION FOR VIOLENCE

Prozac, the world's best-selling anti-depressant, is being blamed for turning healthy, placid people violent. It is thought to have led to crimes that include murder.

In the first clinical trial of its kind, Dr David Healy, director of the North Wales Department of Psychological Medicine at the University of Wales, gave Prozac to a volunteer group of mentally healthy adults and found that even *their* behaviour was affected. "We can make healthy volunteers belligerent, fearful, suicidal, and even pose a risk to others," he said.

The study is the strongest vindication yet of mental health campaigners who claim that dozens of people have been wrongly imprisoned because of the effects Prozac has had on their behaviour. In the United States, school shootings have been linked to number of children given Prozac and other anti-depressants.

In February, a judge in Connecticut acquitted a bank robber who blamed his behaviour on Prozac. In what is thought to

be the first ruling of its kind, Superior Court Judge Richard Arnold freed Christopher DeAngelo, a 28-year-old insurance agent, because the defendant was unable to appreciate that his actions were wrong. Defence lawyer John Williams said: "This was someone who was driven to commit crimes because of prescription drugs."

Meanwhile, doctors in the USA are prescribing Prozac and Ritalin to an ever-increasing number of children. In 1995, over 150,000 children—just in the age group of two to four years—were on Prozac-type drugs. This figure is likely to have tripled since then.

(Sources: Guardian Weekly, 2–8 March 2000; The Observer, 12 March 2000)

MODERN HUMANS NOT RELATED TO NEANDERTHALS

An analysis of DNA extracted from the A ribs of a 29,000-year-old Neanderthal infant buried in a cave in southern Russia shows that modern humans are not related to Neanderthals.

The infant would have been among the last of the Neanderthals. Exactly what happened to them is a mystery. Various theories suggest they were killed off, lost out to competitors or were simply absorbed by modern humans.

The study, led by William Goodwin of Glasgow University, is also important because it verifies the findings of the first analysis of Neanderthal DNA in 1997. The DNA sequence from the infant is very

similar to the specimen from the Feldhofer Cave in Germany—proving that both are genuinely Neanderthal and that there was little diversity among them.

"The fact that these two Neanderthals are closely related and not related to modern humans implies that they don't have the diversity to encompass a modern human gene pool," said Goodwin.

(Source: Reuters, 27 March 2000)

INCENTIVES FOR DOCTORS MAY AFFECT YOUR HEALTH

It usually begins in medical school. Students receive drug company pens, clocks and coffee mugs. As they become doctors, the gifts they receive often increase in value: drug samples, tickets to ball games, dinners for them and their families, all-expenses-paid trips to ski or beach resorts to "consult" with drug company representatives.

It is all part of an intense marketing effort. Each drug company tries to convince doctors of the benefits of its medications, so the doctors, in turn, might prescribe them to you.

By one published estimate, drug companies last year spent an average of US\$13,000 on every physician in the USA, which adds up to more than \$8 billion. Drug companies now employ 70,000 sales representatives, which means one sales representative for every nine doctors.

A recent analysis of 16 different studies showed that doctors courted by drug companies were more likely to engage in "non-rational" prescribing. In other words, they were more likely to order a drug that was more expensive or less effective than what the patient actually needed.

The doctors were also more likely—in some cases, 20 times more likely—to ask a hospital to add the company's drug to the hospital inventory, even though most of the requested drugs "presented little or no therapeutic advantage".

(Source: ABC News, USA, 17 February 2000, <http://abcnews.go.com/onair>)

LOCKERBIE PRIME WITNESS PREVENTED FROM TESTIFYING

Former US Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) operative Lester Coleman was recently incarcerated in a Kentucky prison on charges he alleges are false—yet another effort by the federal government to silence him. Upon his release, Coleman was remanded into custody once again, this



time by New York Federal Judge Thomas Platt. Coleman is a key witness in the Pan Am 103 trial, currently underway in Camp Zeist, The Netherlands.

Coleman's "crime", according to Judge Platt, is perjury, committed in an affidavit he gave in 1997. His testimony blew the whistle on a massive CIA/DEA drug smuggling operation which facilitated the smuggling of a bomb aboard Flight 103. A bag of heroin aboard the flight, bound for a Drug Enforcement Administration drug sting operation in Chicago, was switched for a bag of explosives. Coleman maintains that this testimony is true, and has attempted to appeal the perjury conviction, claiming that his "guilty" plea was made under extreme duress.

A front-page story that appeared on 16 April in the *Sunday Herald* newspaper in Scotland corroborates Coleman's statements. The story reveals claims made by Roland O'Neill, the Pan Am baggage handler who was in charge of loading luggage onto Flight 103. O'Neill's statements back up long-held suspicions that Palestinian terrorists operating in Germany planted the bomb at the behest of Iran, mirroring Coleman's allegations.

Coleman has led the life of a fugitive ever since co-authoring a book, *The Trail of the Octopus*, based on his knowledge of drug smuggling by various US intelligence agencies. Upon the book's publication, an order for Coleman's arrest was issued by the US Government, primarily on accusations of perjury. He was attacked and viciously beaten shortly before his return to the United States in 1996, then placed in custody on federal charges. His book's release by major publishers has since been successfully suppressed.

Coleman has been subpoenaed to testify at the trial of the two Libyans who have been blamed for the Pan Am 103 bombing. However, his continued imprisonment will effectively prevent his appearance.

Coleman would not be the first person to die because of having inside knowledge on the Pan Am tragedy. Investigative journalist Danny Casolaro was found with his wrists slashed in Martinsburg, West Virginia, in 1991—one week after interviewing Coleman. Former DIA/DEA associates of Coleman, including two Lebanese operatives who knew about the drug sting, have been murdered.

(Source: Rumor Mill News Agency, 19 April 2000, www.rumormillnews.com)

ASPARTAME-RELATED HEALTH PROBLEMS CONTINUE LONG AFTER INGESTION STOPPED

From Betty Martini, Mission Possible

In the last few days I have read discussions about aspartame reactions recurring months after having ceased ingestion of the toxin, and also with detoxifying and losing weight (which you would expect to release poison).

I have mentioned in the past that it is common to have a severe reaction, should you accidentally get the least little bit of NutraSweet or even another toxin. James Bowen, MD, has discussed this with me on several occasions, and since he called tonight I asked if he would dictate some information on the issue so it could be put on the list for all who have had questions.

Please keep in mind that aspartame is not an additive: it is a chemical poison. The best way to understand NutraSweet is to think of it as a minute dose of nerve gas that eradicates brain and nerve functions. Below are Dr Bowen's comments.

"I have come across first-hand reports of a lady doctor who had her medical degree revoked because she spoke on the aspartame issue. Even I have been threatened by insiders from the political camp of aspartame, that they will get my degree revoked.

"This brings up a topic of equal magnitude to the aspartame topic, and directly related to it: polychemical sensitivity syndrome (PCS) or chemical hypersensitivity. Virtually every doctor who has dealt with this problem has had a large group of highly satisfied patients, only to see his career destroyed by medical licensing boards and the medical training establishments. This reflects the sure knowledge that they are destroying people's health with this problem.

"The Persian Gulf syndrome is largely polychemical sensitivity from the massive NutraSweet exposure experienced by our men in combat units in the Persian Gulf. The first investigative reports of the Persian Gulf syndrome noted these facts, only to be followed by reports that these Persian Gulf victims obviously could not have polychemical sensitivity syndrome because such a thing doesn't exist, and nothing the medicine was doing for them was helping. Therefore, they must be chronically unhappy people who couldn't be made happy in any manner.

"This illustrates the highly significant feature of aspartame poisoning: that it is an extreme hypersensitisation agent which is highly reactive with other chemicals, especially toxic ones—like the nerve gas and nitrogen mustard gas our troops were exposed to in the Gulf, when our government tried to destroy the stockpiles of these gases they had previously supplied to Saddam Hussein. This is a very poignant part of the NutraSweet issue, because those who had problems with Nutrasweet will now experience recurrences of those same problems when exposed to even the most minute doses of various toxic agents.

"For example, the government studies of formaldehyde hypersensitivity performed many years ago showed that, once hypersensitised, a person can then react to as little as a billionth of a gram of formaldehyde with a violent health problem of some kind. Back in 1983, when NutraSweet was put on the market for [soda]pop, the allowable amount of formaldehyde in ambient air was 500 parts per billion. Our government has subsequently lowered that tolerance level to 50 parts per billion as an official government environmental standard.

"Yet, the government defends staunchly the marketing of aspartame, which as a formaldehyde poisoning is probably 500 times as potent as straight formaldehyde, causing aggravated formaldehyde poisoning in its victims. And yet the amount you would get from a can of pop greatly exceeds what you would get from inhaled air, even by the old, more lenient standard.

"The reason I feel it's so important to publish this information is that those who have been victimised by aspartame really don't have a good shot at enjoying the health they had before, unless they recognise the problem and know how to deal with it."

— James Bowen, MD, telephone +1 (719) 332 0033

(Source: From Betty Martini, *Mission-Possible-USA@altavista.net*, 16 April 2000. For more information on aspartame, visit the website www.dorway.com.)